

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01288 030445Z
ACTION EUR-12

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AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
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UNCLAS USBERLIN 1288

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV AKB BQG
SUBJ: TRIAL OF 2 JUNE MOVEMENT TERRORISTS: EIGHT WEEK

REFS(A) USBER 1253, (B) USBER 1232 (NOTAL) (C) USBER 1239

SUMMARY: AS A RESULT OF DISRUPTIONS CAUSED BY ESCAPE OF
ONE OF DEFENDANTS, TRIAL HAS BEEN ADJOURNED TO 27 JUNE. END
SUMMARY.

1. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 13TH SESSION OF THE TRIAL (ON
30 MAY) THE PRESIDING JUDGE SEPARATED FROM THE MAIN TRIAL
THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST TILL MEYER, WHO HAD BEEN FREED BY
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PAGE 02 USBERL 01288 030445Z

ARMED ACCOMPLICES FROM PRISON ON 27 MAY. AT THE SAME
TIME, A NEW ARREST WARRANT AGAINST MEYER WAS ISSUED. THE
FEDERAL PROSECUTOR APPLIED FOR EXCLUSION FROM THE TRIAL
OF DEFENSE LAWYERS BECKER AND DETLEV MUELLERHOFF, BOTH
OF WHOM HAD BEEN PRESENT AT THE PRISON AT THE TIME
MEYER WAS FREED. INVESTIGATION PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN
INSTITUTED AGAINST THEM ON SUSPICION OF CONSPIRING WITH

TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. BECKER ARGUED AGAINST HIS EXCLUSION FROM THE TRIAL CLAIMING THAT HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE LIBERATION OF MEYER.

2. ON 31 MAY, THE COURT HELD THE 14TH SESSION OF THE TRIAL WHICH LASTED ABOUT TEN MINUTES. WITHOUT STATING REASONS, THE COURT ADJOURNED ITS PROCEEDINGS UNTIL 27 JUNE.

3. COMMENT: ACCUSED TERRORISTS HAVE SO FAR SUCCEEDED ADMIRABLY IN DEMONSTRATING THAT THEY CAN FRUSTRATE THE NORMAL PROCESSES OF JUSTICE. FOR EIGHT WEEKS DEFENDANTS AND THEIR LAWYERS HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENTLY DILATORY THAT THE INDICTMENT OF THE ACCUSED HAS NOT YET BEEN READ BEFORE THE COURT. THE ESCAPE OF MEYER (REFTELS A AND B) AND THE ATTACKS ON COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE COUNSELS (SEPTTEL) ARE THE LATEST MEASURES EMPLOYED BY THE SYMPATHIZERS OF THE ACCUSED TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR CONTEMPT FOR THE WEST GERMAN LEGAL AND SOCIAL ORDER AND TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR ABILITY TO INTIMIDATE AND DISRUPT THOSE ORDERS. WE HAVE NOT YET HEARD HOW THE COURT PLANS TO DEAL WITH THE ATTACKS ON THE COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS; WE STRONGLY BELIEVE HOWEVER THAT THE COURT WILL ENSURE THAT EACH DEFENDANT HAS AT LEAST ONE COURT-APPOINTED LAWYER. JUSTICE OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED THAT IF THE DEFENDANTS ARE REPRESENTED ONLY BY ATTORNEYS OF THEIR OWN CHOICE, ATTORNEYS AND DEFENDANTS

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PAGE 03 USBERL 01288 030445Z

WILL AT SOME POINT REFUSE TO GO ON WITH THE TRIAL, THEREBY EFFECTIVELY BRINGING THE TRIAL TO A STOP.DAVIS

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